



Queen of the Jews

Rev. Arthur B. Klyber, C.Ss.R.

QUEEN OF THE JEWS

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DEDICATION

I DEDICATE THIS LATEST BOOK TO ALL THE DEVOTED FRIENDS WHO HAVE MADE IT POSSIBLE BY THEIR PRAYERS AND BY THEIR MOST GENEROUS FINANCIAL HELP:

MANY OF YOU GAVE THE WIDOW'S, OR THE WIDOWER'S MITE AND SOME GAVE OF YOUR PLENTY: BUT WHAT REALLY MATTERS IS THAT ALL OF YOU GAVE TO JESUS THE MESSIAH.

TO YOU, MY EXCEPTIONAL FRIENDS AND APOSTOLIC HELPERS, I EXTEND MY SACERDOTAL BLESSING, WITH THE PROMISE THAT I SHALL CONTINUE TO OFFER TEN MASSES EACH YEAR FOR THE SPIRITUAL AND MATERIAL WELFARE OF EACH OF YOU, PLUS MY PERSEVERING PRAYERS FOR YOU.

Father Klyber



The Author, Father Arthur Klyber (left), is the Founder and Director of *Remnant of Israel*. He is shown here with Associates, Elasah (center) and Mark Drogen, in their Community Chapel. All three are converts from Judaism.

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QUEEN OF THE JEWS

This Booklet speaks to Catholics and Jews about a Jewish Maiden praised everywhere as the "Virgin Mary". Hundreds of millions in every nation venerate (not worship) Her as the holiest child of Adam ever to have blessed our sordid earth with the sandals of Her feet.

In one language after another Her Name falls with gentle veneration from the lips of more than half the world's population because they acknowledge Her as the Mother of the Messiah.

At times gentiles have been moved by a holy envy of the honor that reflects on the whole Jewish people through the honor given to Mary. One such gentile is the Sainted Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus. When someone once spoke to him about 'pure' Spanish blood, un-mixed by any Jewish blood through marriage, Ignatius countered: "I would consider it a special favor from God had I been born a Jew. What a marvellous privilege it is to be related to the Messiah and to the glorious Virgin Mary, His Mother, by ties of Blood!" Is there any Son of Abraham who does not feel a thrill of exhilaration on learning that one of his own people is being so honored as Mary by gentiles? Paraphrasing the words of a well-known American Poet, I make bold to call this Virgin of Israel the Jewish People's "Solitary but Magnificent Boast". I want to etch into Her Crown therefore, the perhaps hitherto unspoken but most appropriate Title: "Queen of the Jews." For, this Virgin Mary Whose Son is worshipped as "King" of the Jews, must be, in an unique way, "The Queen of the Jews."

CHAPTER ONE

It is a Wonder

Might not the twenty centuries of honor to a Jewish Maiden prompt Jewish people to ponder: 'In view of the continual disdain that many gentiles hold for Jewish people, how is it possible that one Jewish woman ever came to get so much honor from them? Why do we find billions of gentiles celebrating numerous holydays in Her honor? Why do they constantly ask Her to speak to God for them? She has been credited with a multitude of miracles: Did those alleged miracles really occur? Could this Woman possibly be the "Virgin" (the "Almah") of the Prophet Isaiah? Can She be the Prophet Jeremiah's "Woman Who shall encompass a man"? And is She perhaps the "Woman Whose Seed (Son) shall crush the head of the serpent?"

(Prayer from Jewish Morning Service)

O God, and God of our forefathers, bless us with the threefold Blessing of Thy Law, — written by the hand of Moses Thy Servant, and spoken by Aaron and his sons to Thy holy People: “The Lord Bless thee and keep thee: May His Face shine upon thee and be gracious to thee: may the Lord turn His Face to thee, and give thee peace.”

“About six...”

Before proceeding with the subject of this book I think something about Jesus in particular would help to its better understanding. Let me begin with a pleasant memory of my seminary-days. One day a student for the priesthood asked his Professor of Scripture this question: “Father, about how many Jews, do you think, were fully responsible for, and guilty of calling for the crucifixion of Jesus?” The Professor, a really holy and very learned man in His Subject after twenty-five years of teaching It, answered almost at once: “O, about six.”

That unbiased opinion nails the full guilt of the crucifixion to the few, where it

belongs. The mere mob-action of the ordinary Jews who were present at the Trial of Jesus, is so clearly stated in Church Tradition that only a blindly prejudiced person could miss it. Simon Bar Jonah, better known to Bible-readers as St. Peter was very likely an eyewitness of the Crucifixion of Jesus. On the Day of the Descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, he proclaimed to some three-thousand Jews in Jerusalem: "I know that you did it (shouted for the crucifixion of Jesus) in ignorance, just as did your Rulers." (Book of The Acts of the Apostles, Ch. 3, verse 17.)

The sage utterance of the Scripture Professor above quoted, pinpoints the inescapable lesson of history, that every nation will pay in suffering, for the crimes of its leaders. I have tried to present that fact at greater length in my Book "This Jew".

So much, at the moment, for the Crucifixion-Event. Its inseparable connection with what I write about the Virgin Mary should be evident as I proceed: the Two, Jesus and Mary, are everywhere inseparable.

CHAPTER TWO

WHO is She? — WHAT is She?

I here apologize to my own Jewish people for part of what I am about to write. I love them...what else? but before God I do not see any other way to accomplish what simply must be done. Certainly too, I haven't the slightest intention to call down on Jewish heads the anger of any Christians who may read this book. In centuries past, and even nowadays, some dastardly calumnies about Jews in general, have been circulated by gentiles who do not deserve to be called Christians. Who would think of upbraiding the Jews for fighting back with their justified complaints about all that?

On the other hand we find equally malicious calumnies on the Jewish side against cherished basic Christian Beliefs. So, as the French adage has it: "Noblesse oblige" — that is, "nobility obligates". As Christians are willing and ready to defend the Jews against gentile calumnies, so we expect our Jewish fellowmen to bear up with our own complaints about some Jewish mistakes. Informed Christians just cannot in conscience allow certain untruths about Jesus and Mary to go their destructive way unhindered. Honest-minded Christians and

Jews will see the reasonableness of this. With that observation let me go ahead. I refer here to the total blackening and destruction of the good Names of Jesus and Mary in a certain printed Work of the 13th century known as GENERATIONS OF JESUS (in Hebrew, TOLEDOTH JESU). The contents of that Book are known chiefly to the Yiddish-speaking people of eastern Europe; and, those contents are explosive. Discussion about them makes me think of something that happened to a friend of mine who was inspecting a carbide-pit while smoking a cigarette. As he bent over the pit some of the cigarette-ashes fell into the pit and caused it to blow up into his face and hands.

With a smile — let me say to the reader whoever you are: please try not to read this book with the ‘lighted cigarette’ of a prejudiced mind: it might blow up into your face. A Jewish reader could be strongly tempted to condemn me as a ‘Jew-hater’, and Christian readers might feel like condemning Jews as anti-Christian. Please be on guard against that, and credit me with sincerity of purpose in relating the following incident, and in drawing conclusions from it. I am stressing it, only because of the calumnies it reveals as buried in the minds and hearts of many really religious Jews.

The Mamser

Out of respect and love for the feelings and religious convictions of my dear Aunt, my mother's sister, I refrained from visiting her, or writing to her for about twenty-three years after I had come to believe in the Messiahship of Jesus. However I finally decided to visit her because of her advanced age, lest she go to God without my ever seeing her again. As I stepped across the threshold of her home she greeted me with a warmer than usual motherly embrace. We had hardly gotten seated than the dear woman began to scold me, and after a couple of minutes she asked me point blank: "Do you believe that Yaysus (Jesus) is God?" She spoke the Name "Jesus" in her Yiddish accent, and surprised me by pronouncing It at all. Since she was nearly stone-deaf I had to answer "Yes" with a nod of the head. At that she countered with an unmistakable sting of sarcasm: "Don't you know that he is a mamser?" ("mamser" is the Yiddish word for "bastard-child".) That was a severe shock, not only because of what she had said, but because she had said it to me — it made me sick at heart. I had read that 13th century Book called GENERATIONS OF JESUS (TOLEDOTH JESU) in which the moral character of Mary and Her Son Jesus

are dragged in the mud in vile verbiage that I choose not to write in these pages. I was aware too that the calumnious sewer-language of TOLEDOTH about Jesus and Mary was still circulating among the best Yiddish-speaking Jews in the world: and possibly among the non-Yiddish-speaking Jews.

It was hard to grasp that this devout Aunt of mine, 85 years old, had always sincerely believed that Catholics gave divine adoration to One who "had been born out of wedlock to a prostitute named Mary." Again, to think that my Aunt Ethel had thought of me for some 25 years as one who venerated and asked heavenly intercession from that woman whom she honestly believed was a common slut and street-prostitute! In addition to this, it is saddening and mind-boggling to know that of all Jews it should be the really religious ones who still believe those lies; while the less-religious Jews had thrown GENERATIONS OF JESUS into the sewer long before. This is verified in VALENTINE'S JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA in its column headed "Toledoth Jesu" as follows: "TOLEDOTH JESU is a Hebrew biography of early composition with NO BACKGROUND IN FACT." (Emphasis is mine.) The master

Work known as THE JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA (1908) has the following in Vol. 7 under the subheading "Jesus in Jewish Legend": "Many of the legends (Jewish) have a theological background. For polemical purposes it was necessary (?) for Jews to insist on the illegitimacy of Jesus as against the Davidic Descent (of Jesus) as claimed by the Christian Church." Right here, but also in the abominable language of GENERATIONS OF JESUS we may see the reason that our religious Jews remain blind to the real, historical Mary and Jesus; it all explains why the Synagogue condemns Jesus and Mary as deserters from the Jewish People, and as persons condemned eternally by God Himself.

(From the Jewish Morning Service)

O favor us with knowledge, understanding and discernment from Thee. Blest art Thou, O Lord, Gracious Giver of knowledge.

Smear and then Forget

The facts about the history of the Virgin-birth of Jesus were originally proclaimed and written by Levi (St. Matthew) and by St. Luke. Christians will recognize in

GENERATIONS OF JESUS the butchered account of that Gospel. The few leaders (“about six”) to whom I have referred, transmitted to their unsuspecting Jewish posterity the horrible smear that the Mother of Jesus was just a filthy prostitute: and this they did so as to give the impression that they were consistent in rejecting also Her Son Jesus. They injected their spiritual poison so doggedly and persistently into the minds of their People as at last to completely sterilize their spiritual bloodstream of every ‘germ’ of genuine love of Mary and Jesus which they had in the beginning. Consequently, a “prayer-curse”, uttered often by Yiddish-speaking Jews especially, is: “May His Name be blotted out”; and in blotting out of their memories the Name of “Jesus”, they also blotted out His Mother’s Name. If they find that they must speak about Jesus they will ‘sidestep’ that Name, and say instead: “that man”, or “that bastard”, or “that apostate”.

More devastating than a nuclear bomb was that campaign of “smear first and then forget”. Only a sad vacuum remained in the good hearts of those deceived Jews. God’s People in Israel justly expected their Leader-shepherds to walk them to green pastures where they might find their

Redeemer; but instead they marched them into dark, forbidding wastelands.

Well — Whom they once loved they can love again because “Nothing is impossible to God.” If the charm of the real Mary of Nazareth should once again capture their hearts, and if the “Second-Moses” (Jesus), Who loved His People unto death on a Cross, ever becomes known to them they will again fill the air with their Hosannas. It is undeniable that if those two “Boasts” of Israel ever became known to our Jews, they would evict from their minds forever the hideous ogre that now lives there, and would hug Mary and Jesus to their hearts with tears of joy.

(From the Jewish Morning Service)

And may His Kingdom soon be revealed and made visible to us: and may He be gracious to the Remnant of His People, the House of Israel, granting them grace, kindness, mercy and favor.

CHAPTER THREE

The Jewish Virgin through Jewish glasses

The Tradition of the Synagogue has been (at least among the Orthodox) that the Messiah, son of David, was to come from a virgin-birth. So, to avoid confusion about the Woman Whom the Church calls "The Blessed Virgin Mary" I set down briefly at this point, the Church's Tradition about Her Virginity:

- 1) Almighty God, when providing an earthly Mother for His Eternal Son, dispensed with the cooperation of any human husband. Instead the Holy Spirit of God planted the Promised Redeemer into the chaste womb of Mary.
- 2) The Blessed Virgin never had sexual relations with any man.
- 3) Her Divine-Human Son was Her only Child.
- 4) Mary had probably made up her mind by a vow to remain forever a virgin, even before She learned from the Announcing Angel, that She was the "Almah" foretold by Isaiah.

Except for number four above, the Rabbis of

the Talmud, and other Hebrew Commentators, teach the same as does the Church about their own, still-expected mother of the Messiah. All the Jewish-Catholic Tenets are gathered into the well-known expression: "Mary was a virgin before, during and after the Birth of Jesus." Archbishop Sheen of beloved memory, put it well when he wrote: "The meaning of the Virgin-birth is Divine Love acting without benefit of flesh." This union of the Virgin-Motherhood of Jesus is what crowns Mary as The "Blessed" Virgin; and it explains in part why that Title was given to Her by multitudes of Jews as well as by gentiles at the beginning.

God's 'Wife'

Legend has it that a certain Israelite army-officer, when asked to embrace Christianity, retorted: "I can't believe that to save sinners God was compelled to enter into marital relations with a woman." This was just another specious quip about God and the Virgin Máry, that has continued to cheat unsuspecting Jews out of the Truths of God. The soldier, whose name was Priscus, childishly uses the word "compelled" — but can God be compelled by anyone? Priscus

hints strongly that it was beneath God's dignity to have "marital" (sexual) relations with any woman, to save sinners. This was just another childish argument. God is a Pure Spirit: and as Such He simply cannot have the kind of "sexual" relations that Priscus speaks of. How ridiculous can you get? But these are the fallacies that trip up unwary religious Jews. As to human approval or disapproval of what God does or plans to do, why not let Ezekiel the Prophet speak: "Are not My Ways right, O House of Israel?" (18:29); and Jeremiah: "I am the Lord God of all flesh: is anything too difficult for Me?"; and Isaiah: "My thoughts are as high above yours, as the heavens are above the earth." (55:9)

It is purest Judaism and Christianity (completed Judaism) that God does wisely whatever He does, and that nobody dare ask Him: "What have you done?" (Ezekiel 12:11) Finally, may I quip: since God allows every man to take a virgin as his wife, may He not have a Virgin for Himself, and keep her without "marital" relations?

A Rabbi Dreams

Here, let me introduce an imaginary rabbi poring over the closely-printed lines of

his Talmud. As he reads his eyelids grow heavier and heavier till at last his bearded head falls gently to sleep on the pages before him. He begins to dream about the Promised Messiah. (Please note that the lines which I shall put into quotation-marks are words spoken or written by real rabbis who lived at various times. Those lines are astonishing because they echo the Church's perpetual adoration of Jesus, and veneration of Mary.)

As the rabbi dreams on, the devout yearning words of Rabbi Joseph sound into his dreaming ears: "I pray that He (Messiah) will come in my day: that I may be allowed to sit in the shadow of the animal on which He rides." (Jesus riding into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday)

Loud echoes now come to the sleeping rabbi as from a far-away canyon: Rabbis crying out in the Name of all Israel:

"The Garment with which God will clothe the Messiah, will, in its splendor, extend from one end of the world to the other..."

"Blessed is the hour in which the Messiah was created."

"Blessed is the womb from which He comes forth!!" (Elizabeth's praise of Mary: "Blessed are you among women...")

“Blessed is the generation that sees Him.” (This echoes Jesus’ own Words: “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see.”)

“The opening of His lips is blessing and peace...and on His tongue are compassion and forgiveness. His Prayer is a delightful fragrance and His supplication is Holiness and Purity. O FORTUNATE ISRAEL, just think of what is reserved for you!!”

As the rabbi dreams on he seems to hear the words of Jeremiah (quoted by Rabbi Nahman): “And their (the Israelites) Leader shall be one of themselves; and their Ruler (Messiah) shall proceed from the midst of them.” (14:9)

Here, the striking words of the Angel Gabriel come to mind. Gabriel appeared to Mary, a virgin, and said to Her: “The Holy Spirit will overshadow you (the Shekinah). You will conceive and bear a Son to Whom you must give the Name Jesus (in Hebrew, “Jehoshuah” which means “God Saves”). You will conceive and bear a Child Who will be known as the Son of God.”

Here we may note the expression “conceive and bear” which is the same as that used by Isaiah the Prophet.

The rabbi sleeps on, and begins to wonder just what the Mother of the Messiah will be like. Surely She will have to be more holy than all other Jewish women: but what should God do to make Her worthy of being Messiah's Mother? Images of some of the Synagogues's most honored women passed before him. Will Messiah's Mother be like Sarah, Abraham's wife? Sarah indeed brought forth the great Patriarch Isaac, but he was only a man like all of us. The Messiah's Mother however must give of Her Body to "God the Mighty". Well then maybe She'll be like Judith whom the High Priest praised as "The Glory of Jerusalem"? No, for Judith was associated with blood. Then perhaps She will be another Queen Esther? No, for with all her charm and beauty and fortitude, she too was associated with blood.

If I were God

In his dream the rabbi shook his head negatively: 'none of these great Jewish women pictures to me the kind of mother I would create for my Son if I were God. This Mother of the Messiah is going to bear the Messiah beneath Her Heart for nine months! She will afterwards hold Her breast to His baby-lips. She will kiss His beautiful

forehead and cheeks, and will hug Him affectionately for many years. She will give Him a love and care that no other could give. More than all else, She must be kept free of even the tiniest taint of sin from the instant of Her conception: any sin would disqualify Her. What an amazingly holy Creature She will have to be to contain within Herself the All-Holy Messiah!’

Suddenly the dreaming rabbi recalled the Blessing which his wife had invoked on their newly-born daughter:

“May you be worthy to become the
Mother of the Messiah!”

At that moment he felt a hand on his shoulder, and heard his wife saying: “Wake up, David, it’s time to go to bed.”

CHAPTER FOUR

Why Not — if He could?

Viewing the Virgin-birth of Jesus from the eyes of a Jew living before the Coming of Jesus of Nazareth, it is seen fitting and best for God to make of the Virgin who is to bring forth the Redeemer, the most beautiful Creature ever to come from His creative Hands — the Redeemer Jesus alone excepted.

It is right and dignified and best for God to have a perpetual Virgin as the Mother of the Redeemer: since God is Infinitely Wise, and can accomplish such a Wonder, He therefore **did** accomplish It.

In the Faith of the Church (completed Judaism) God planned to create such a Virgin — a Plan that we see in the forecasts of the Inspired Prophets. This Virgin-Mother of Jesus is today venerated in every nation of the world as THE Virgin foretold by Isaiah: “Behold, THE Virgin shall be conceiving and bearing a Son Who shall be called ‘God with us’.” (7:14) Those who are acquainted with the Hebrew language must be aware that the Hebrew Text of Isaiah in Chapter 7:14 uses a participial construction.

That is why the sentence can be translated as I have given it just above.

One truth that gleams in the twilight heavens of Jewish tradition like the planet Venus in an evening sky, is the sentence of rabbis: "ALL THE PROPHETS WITHOUT EXCEPTION PROPHESED ABOUT THE DAYS OF THE MESSIAH." (Talmud: Tract-Sanhedrin). This Proclamation was also made by Simon Bar Jonah (St. Peter), in The Acts of the Apostles, ch. 3, verse 24: "All the Prophets who have ever spoken, from Samuel onward, have predicted these Days (of the Messiah); you (Men of Israel) are the heirs of those Prophets." Peter told this to some 3,000 Jews gathered in Jerusalem for the Jewish Feast of Pentecost, from a dozen nations of the then known world.

Since this is so, then everyone who still clings to a Messianic Hope must be in one of two states of soul: either he has already found the Messiah in the Person of Jesus, or, he still expects him to come. Sadly, it seems right to say that a Jew who has rejected all belief in a personal messiah, remains indeed a Hebrew, but has fleeced himself of his one Great Consolation.

(From the Jewish Evening Service)

Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, Who rememberest the pious deeds of the Patriarchs; and Who, in Love, wilt bring a Redeemer to their children's children for Thy Name's Sake.

Jews and Virginity

Though it seems fairly easy to demonstrate that Mary IS the Virgin-Mother of Jesus, it seems impossible to show that She is NOT that Virgin-Mother. For instance, if that Virgin-birth is really a wicked deception — a lie — it would have to be so gigantic as to make a Baron Munchausen look like an honest George Washington. Just how 'tall' would that lie have to be if it was to have power to deceive billions of common-sense people among whom were and are the world's most learned for nearly twenty centuries? What kind of lie must it be, if it is to inspire multitudes of those billions even to lay down their lives in support and witness of such a lie? Talk about miracles! The very notion that such a supposed lie (about the perpetual Virginity of the Mother of Jesus) actually converted billions to the Christ, and is still doing so, could work by reverse logic

to confirm the Virgin-birth forever as an indisputably historic fact.

The devout Jews who Believed in Jesus and Mary at the beginning did NOT invent any virgin-birth, and actually could not have done so with any hope of its acceptance by other Jews. The well-known Jewish “thumbs down” attitude against virginity either in men or women would have brought down on the heads of the Believers an instant and vigorous ridicule. As pointed out above, such ridicule, crass name-calling, base calumny, and smearing of the reality of the Virgin-birth was exactly what later rabbis used with terrible effect, to prevent any further Jewish conversions to Jesus and Mary.

The Jewish Apostles

The first Followers of Jesus, the Apostles, “overturned the appplecart” by **DOING PRECISELY WHAT ANY CRAFTY DECEIVERS WOULD HAVE AVOIDED AT ALL COST**. It can be said with confidence, that if the First Jewish Believers in Jesus had accepted as true, a ‘make-believe’ virgin-birth we would never have had any Catholic Church, or — we might have had one which would quickly have dissolved like steam in mid-air.

Some words of a most learned and prominent Rabbi who lived during the lifetime of Jesus bear out this statement. I have in mind the striking wisdom of the famed Gamaliel, a member of the Pharisee Party, present at the Sanhedrin-Trial of the Apostles. A moment had been reached in the Trial, when most of the Rabbinical Court became furious, and were ready to kill the Apostles. At that point,

Gamaliel, a very learned Teacher of the Law, and respected by the whole (Jewish) People, stood up and asked to have those on trial, taken outside for a time; then he addressed the Sanhedrin: "Men of Israel, be careful how you deal with these people. There was a certain Theudas who became notorious not too long ago. He claimed to be someone important and even gathered about 400 followers; but when he was killed all his followers scattered and that was the end of them. Then there was Judas the Galilean...who also attracted crowds of supporters, but when he too was killed all his followers dispersed. What I suggest then is that you let these men alone and free them. If this Movement of theirs is of mere human origin it will break up by Itself; but if It does ac-

tually come from God, not only will you be unable to destroy It, but you might find yourselves fighting against God.” (Acts of the Apostles, Ch. 5:34ss)

Oil vs. Virginity

Here is what the Jewish Apostles and Disciples proclaimed to thousands of their fellow Jews in Jerusalem:

- 1) They proclaimed that Mary of Nazareth (then still alive and living with John the Apostle in Ephesus) was the **Virgin-Mother** of Jesus Who had risen from the Tomb.
- 2) They proclaimed this boldly in the streets of Jerusalem, in Synagogues, in Temple, and even to the Members of the Sanhedrin.
- 3) Those Apostles proclaimed also that Joseph, the legal husband of Mary, had never had any sexual relations with Her.
- 4) They preached coolly that Jesus Whom many knew as only the natural son of Joseph and Mary, was, after all, not simply Mary's natural Son but had been sired in Mary by the Holy Spirit of God: that is, Jesus was Mary's supernatural Son. Surely they

were begging for trouble from the Jews who belittled virginity, by asking them to believe that Mary was biologically the Mother of Jesus, while biologically remaining an intact virgin.

Then — What Happened?

Well, as valid history (not fable) testifies, some 3,000 Jews who had heard Peter's Proclamation, at once professed Belief in Jesus and in His Mother's perpetual Virginity. Among those thousands were some scholarly rabbis, and the so-called "Jews of the Land" (Am Haaretz) — despised by the 'upper crust' among the Leaders.

Out of the several recorded mass-conversions of Jews in those first days let me mention one such marvel from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles, Ch. 14: "A great throng of Jews and Greeks professed Belief in Jesus (and consequently in the Virginity of Mary)." Probably those Greeks had previously become Jews in religion.

Here then, at Jerusalem, the mammoth Foundation-Stones of the Catholic Synagogue were laid immovably: and on those Stones rests the structure known as the

Catholic Church. It is rather commonly known too, that the first 15 Bishops of Jerusalem were of Jewish parentage. Moreover, it should be pointed out that none of those early Jewish Believers ever spoke of themselves as anything but Jews. They never even tolerated the notion that they had 'changed' their Jewish Religion to something completely 'other'. They had an irreversible, irremovable conviction through the Gift of Faith, that they had merely completed and glorified the Beliefs which their ancestors had received from Yahweh, The "I AM". "Change" in Religion was out of the question regardless of how their acceptance of Jesus and Mary was later sneered at. They acknowledged HIM Who "had come to earth to Fulfill the Laws of Moses — not to destroy It"; and they were convinced that in professing Belief in Jesus and in His Mother's Virginity, they had become the best Jews ever!

(From the Jewish Prayer Book)

May the All-Merciful God make us worthy to see the Days of the Messiah, and the Life of the World-to-come.

**Always expected —
A Virgin-birth for the Messiah**

The mass-conversion noted above, together with the subsequent conversions of whole nations would have been impossible if the Jewish People had not had a constant Divine Tradition that Messiah was to have a perpetual Virgin as His Mother. When some Rabbis commented on the expected Messiah they used the expression: "He is to come into this world from a different principle or source;" that is, He was to come from outside this world and in a way of birth not clearly revealed to human beings. This notion seems to be implied in the Gospel witnessed by St. John the Apostle (7:25):

Some of the inhabitants of Jerusalem said: "Isn't this Jesus the One they are anxious to kill? yet here He is speaking out in the open, but they do not rebuke Him. Maybe the authorities have discovered that this Man is really the Messiah. On the other hand, we know who this man's (Jesus') parents are: **BUT WHEN MESSIAH DOES COME NOBODY WILL KNOW HIS PARENTAGE.** (That is, He will come from a principle of Life different from all other human beings.)

CHAPTER FIVE

Almah — Naara — Betulah (Hebrew Words for “virgin”)

I am of course familiar with Rabbinic opinions about the term “Almah” as used in the Isaian Prophecy. Rabbis insist that “Almah” can mean “an unmarried woman” who is not a virgin: though they grant that “Almah” can also be used as meaning “Virgin”. I don’t have space to go into a long dissertation on this tricky matter and it’s really not called for: but for completeness’ sake I’d like to offer a few observations for discriminating readers — Christian and Jewish alike.

- 1) The Catholic Tradition on Mary’s Virgin-Motherhood does not rely exclusively on the meaning of “Almah” as used by Isaiah.
- 2) The Jewish Believers in Jesus did not accept Mary’s perpetual Virginité on Isaiah’s Prophecy alone. Neither did they lean exclusively on Mary’s own say-so about it: nor on any mere assurance about It from Her close relatives. BUT — they DID accept Her perpetual Virginité because of

the combined force and proof of all the miraculous occurrences in the Life of Jesus, together with the unbroken Israelitic Tradition imbedded in the Prophecies. ONCE CONVINCED, through the Gift of Faith, THAT JESUS WAS TRULY THE MESSIAH, it followed as surely as day follows night that His Mother WAS THE "ALMAH" IN THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH Ch. 7:14. Expressed differently and perhaps pleasantly: "Jesus was God on His Eternal Father's Side, and Man on His Mother's Side."

"Levi Explains"

In the Written Traditions of the Church, Levi (Matthew the Apostle) pleased the Jewish-Christians of his time with his first-hand account of the Coming of Jesus into this world through the operation of the Holy Spirit. He wrote:

Regarding the Conception of Jesus the Messiah, the circumstances were as follows: His Mother Mary was espoused to Joseph; but before they lived together She was found to be pregnant. Joseph Her husband (only by

espousals) being right-minded, and unwilling to expose Her, resolved to put Her away without public formalities. He had hardly made up his mind to do so than an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said: "Joseph, Son of David, do not scruple to take Mary, your (espoused) wife into your home. Her Conception was wrought by the Holy Spirit. She will bring forth a Son Whom you must name Jesus (Saviour) because He will Save the People from their sins." This event with all its circumstances was (accomplished) so as to fulfill the Lord's Prediction, made through the Prophet Isaiah: "Behold, **THE** Virgin will be pregnant and give birth to a Son Who will be called Emmanuel, which means God With Us."

Now Levi, by quoting Isaiah, revealed the quietly-accepted Divine Tradition of the Israelite Revelations from God about a Virgin-birth for the Messiah. At the same time he showed that Jews who accepted the Messiahship of Jesus believed with equal Faith that "Almah" referred to the Virgin Mary — else no Jew would have given Her or Her Son a moment's notice.

Parthenos

When Hebrew scholars translated the Hebrew Torah and other Books into Greek about 200 years before Jesus was born they used the Greek word "Parthenos" to carry over their understanding of the Hebrew word "Almah" in Isaiah 7:14. It is taken for granted that the ancient Jewish translators knew their Greek well enough to translate the Bible. To my own knowledge, the Greek language used "Parthenos" so exclusively to mean "Virgin" that Greeks would not have used "Parthenos", for instance, when speaking of a married woman or of a non-virgin female. In that way, the Jewish translators gave evidence of their traditional grasp of the word "Almah" in Isaiah.

I have to state that the only way for Jewish scholars to evade this evidence was to disown their own Septuagint Translation altogether. Did they do so? It seems they did. This is attested in VALENTINE'S JEWISH ENCYCLOPEDIA as follows under the heading "Septuagint": "The appearance of the Septuagint was greeted with enthusiasm by Jews everywhere; BUT, with the rise of the Christian Sect, and Its adoption of this Septuagint as Its Bible too,

the Jews began to denounce the Septuagint vehemently." Jewish Believers in Jesus were saddened and confused about that 'about face' by the Jews. They could not understand why a Jewish-Greek Bible which "had been greeted with enthusiasm by Jews everywhere", and had been honored and read in Synagogues throughout the world, for some two hundred years, should suddenly become heretical and obnoxious to Jews?

(From Jewish Morning Service)

Blest art Thou, O Lord, speedily cause the offspring of David Thy Servant to flourish: for we await Thy Salvation all day long. Blest art Thou O Lord for hearkening to our prayer.

"My Rabbi and My God"

The words of the subtitle just above were uttered with deep awe and joy by Thomas, the Jewish Apostle, when he saw, touched and spoke with, the Resurrected Jesus. Any devout Jew will appreciate the kind of proof of the Resurrection that had to be given to draw from the heart and lips of another devout Jew such a seeming blasphemy. In

paraphrase, Thomas said to Jesus: 'Until this moment I called you only "Rabbi", but now as I gaze at the nail-wounds in your Hands, and the spear-wound in your Heart, with my own eyes, I am moved with deep conviction by the Grace of God, to worship You as "My God" (Eli).' It is a fair surmise that Thomas and all the other Apostles had also been skeptical about the Virgin-birth. They sought proof of the Virgin-Motherhood. After the Resurrection of Jesus however, the mere spoken word of Jesus was enough for the Disciples.

CHAPTER SIX

Mary The Prophetess

All this evidence was proclaimed to the gentile peoples by the Jewish Disciples of Jesus. Without those proofs, and also the miracles that accompanied the Apostolic Proclamation of the Gospel, the conversion of the gentiles would have been impossible. However, the conversion of the gentile nations, foretold in the Torah and the Prophets, **WAS PROPHESED AGAIN AND POINTEDLY BY THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY HERSELF.**

Therefore Mary is not only the “Virgin” visioned by Isaiah, but She is also a Prophet like him. Out of the dozens of Prophecies in Israel concerning the conversion of the gentiles (goyim) I will present just one, and then proceed to the great Prophecy made by the Mother of Jesus. The Prophet Isaiah writes: “In the final era (last days) the mountain of the House of the Lord will be prepared on the top of mountains and **ALL NATIONS** shall flow into It.” (Isaiah 2:2) Isaiah revealed that Prophecy at least 2,700 years ago — 800 years before Jesus was born. Everyone can see that this Prophecy has been fulfilled to the letter.

“All Nations” — “All Generations”

The precise Prophecy made by the Blessed Virgin Mary is that the gentiles in every nation WOULD CALL HER “BLESSED”. Whereas the ancient Prophets used the wide phrase, “All Nations...”, Mary pinpointed Her Prophecy by saying: “All GENERATIONS shall call me Blessed.” Let us see whether or not that Prophecy was a true Prophecy.

About 1900 years ago, Mary, a Galilean Maiden of 16 or so, paid an unexpected visit to Her cousin Elizabeth in Hebron in Judea. As the Holy Maiden stepped across the threshold She uttered the customary Hebrew Greeting: “Shalom Lak” (or “Shalom Alechem” if given to more than one person). Elizabeth returned the Greeting in accents of awe as she folded Mary into her affectionate embrace. Then she exclaimed: “How is it that I deserve a visit from the Mother of my Lord! Miriam, you are more highly blest than all women, and Blessed is the Child within you. As soon as I heard your Greeting the infant in my womb leaped for joy. You are blest indeed for believing that what the Angel told you would be fulfilled.”

Mary, perhaps in an ecstasy, answered: “Elizabeth, from now on every generation in

the world will call me **Blessed** until the end of time, because God Almighty has done great things in me, just as He promised to Abraham and to his Progeny (Seed) forever. God has made me the Mother of the Saviour but has preserved my maidenhood.”

Test of Prophecy

Two tests were set in ancient Judaism to decide whether a prophecy was from God. *Test number one*: Does the alleged prophet try to lead the People away from God? (Deut. 13:1-5). *Test number two*: Did the prophecy come true? Mary’s forecast that all generations would call Her Blessed was fulfilled so literally that no discussion about it is necessary: everyone can see that fulfillment in the pages of history and in present-day life. “Blessed are you among women” is written, prayed, and sung, in Bibles, on stage and screen, in art and poetry, on radio and television, and of course in the Churches.

How about **Test number one**? Has Mary by Her Prophecy led “all generations” away from God? Definitely, and without quibble all who Believe that Mary is the Mother of Jesus are now actually closer to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob than ever: they

worship the same One Indivisible Unity which Mary and the Jews call "Adonai Echod". Those who ignorantly continue to accuse Christians of worshipping three Gods must be asleep. Mary worshipped the Trinity in Unity. As a Jewish woman She was already acquainted with the Holy Spirit, and with God the Father. In Her own Son Jesus She eventually beheld and worshipped the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity. In no way did She ever lead anyone from God by Her Prophecy: She is a Prophet.

The joyful fruit of all these considerations is, and can only be, that the Woman now universally addressed as the "Blessed Virgin Mary" is Blessed, because Her Divine Son is the Blessed God. She is the Woman foreseen by God when He said to the serpent in Eden: "Her Seed shall crush your head." About Mary, this Great, Sublime Creature of God, we may sing what the Jews of Bethulia sang of Judith — only we sing it with three times the fervor, the joy, and the truth:

The Lord has blest You by His Power
because by You He has brought our
enemies to nought. O Daughter, You
are Blest by the Lord the Most High God
more than all women on earth. Blest be
the Lord God for so magnifying your

Name today that your Praises shall not cease from the mouths of men forever. You are the Glory of Jerusalem: You are the Joy of Israel: You are the Honor of our People. Your heart has been strengthened because You have loved chastity and therefore You shall be Blessed forever. (Book of Judith, Ch. 13 and 15)

O Blessed Mary, Virgin Mother of Jesus the Messiah, what is this iron wall that prevents our Jewish fellowmen from seeing that beauty in You which 'ravished' God Himself? Who will smash that wall to pieces for us? Who will rip the blindfold, the 'Veil', from the tearfilled eyes of sad and troubled Israel? We know Who can do it, and Who will do it— Your Divine Child: the ONE Who came from eternal realms as the Eternal Son of God, and has returned to the Bosom of His Father, robed in the once mortal flesh which You gave Him from Your Virginal Body. O please beseech Him for our Jewish People.

O, Queen of the Jews, beseech the King of Kings for the souls of our Jews, as Queen Esther sought help for Her People against physical persecution: "for, the Law is made not for You, but for all others". From

sunrise to sunset Your Son Jesus the King of the Universe asks: 'O, my Mother, what is Your Petition? Ask for anything and You shall have it.' O, Mary plead with Your Son the Lord: "O, my Son Jesus, I ask and beg that You give our People knowledge and Love of You unto eternal Life." (Esther, Ch. 7)

Christian readers, and especially our devoted Catholics, please pray **daily** for the Jews of today whose sainted ancestors helped to give us Jesus and Mary — the Best of the Best. Ask for much light and grace for the souls of all wayward, prodigal Jews who have spurned their Adonai Echod — their One God. Ask that at long last the good, devout Orthodox Jews who give great honor to God from day to day may discover that their Messiah has come in Jesus. Ask this lovely Jewess also to remove from the minds of the gentiles any dark prejudices against Her People, and against all spirit of unjust discrimination and persecution. O, Queen of Heaven, Queen of the Jews, plead for all of us!

REMNANT OF ISRAEL, INC.

Remnant of Israel, to the Hebrew Prophets, meant the minority of devoted Israelites who held fast to God and to the Promise of a Messiah. Our Organization is named after and addresses such a Remnant existing among our Jewish people today.

Father Arthur Klyber, now in his vigorous 80th year, established *Remnant of Israel, Inc.* in 1976 with two other Jewish converts, Mark and Elasah Drogin who are both 34 and have 6 children. Our Apostolate, in union with our many devoted Catholic friends, is directed to our Jewish fellowmen through prayers, literature and personal correspondence. There were no exceptions to Jesus' Command to "Go evangelize all nations, but first go to the lost sheep of Israel." Pope Paul VI and John Paul II have emphasized that "The Universality of the Gospel Message *demands* that God's Word be carried to *ALL* peoples" — and forever.

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